

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the time by which the said coach is likely to be attached?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Do not arise

[English]

Intercity Express

4012. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend Hyderabad-Guntur Intercity Express upto Madras and to introduce Intercity train between Guntur and Madras,

(b) if so, the time by which the said proposals are likely to be implemented, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) Due to operational and resource constraints.

Recovery of Arrears

4013. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Railways seek recovery of arrears", appearing in Statesman dated May 17, 1996,

(b) whether the Cash-and-carry method introduced by the railways to recover outstanding dues has been ineffective, and

(c) if so, the concrete steps proposed to be taken by the Government to recover the outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The condition of compulsory prepayment of freight is imposed selectively so as to avoid accumulation of outstanding dues. This condition had not been imposed for DESU and Badarpur Thermal Power Plant of NTPC in view of the importance and necessity to ensure uninterrupted power supply to the National Capital. Hence the outstanding dues had accumulated especially against these two organisations.

(c) It has now been decided to impose the condition of prepayment, in principle, on coal traffic moved to power houses with effect from 1.10.1996 so as to avoid further

accumulation. As regards pending outstanding dues every effort is made to liquidate the same.

[Translation]

Railway Bridges

4014. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the number of bridges on stations falling between Delhi to Ambala and the norms framed by the Railways to construct the new bridges on the Stations,

(b) whether the goods trains normally remain halted at Rathdhana station due to which the passengers have to face great difficulties and also as a result of this accidents have taken place many a times.

(c) whether the Government propose to construct a bridge at this station,

(d) if so, the time by which, and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Between Delhi and Ambala, foot-over-bridges have been provided at 7 stations. The stations having high level platforms are given priority for the provision of foot-over-bridges for connecting the platforms

(b) Goods trains sometimes halt at this station for operational reasons. No train accident has taken place on this account.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The work has already been included in the Budget, 1996-97 and likely to be completed by 1997-98 subject to the availability of funds.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Joint Forest Management Scheme of Andhra Pradesh

4015. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Joint Forests Management Scheme of Andhra Pradesh,

(b) the reasons for delay in giving clearance to the Joint Forests Management Scheme of Andhra Pradesh, and

(c) the time by which clearance is likely to be given to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN